

# The ambition is to build on the positive and unique aspects of the area to achieve:

- Schools that inspire children to enjoy learning and succeed together.
- Peaceful parkland that is a haven for nature and wildlife.
- A Square that welcomes people and gives them a reason to stay.
- Spaces that can be a platform for Huntly's culture and creativity.
- Sporting facilities that support individuals and teams to develop and achieve higher performance.
- Public buildings that are accessible to all.
- Visitors all year round.
- Places where people of all ages can learn.
- Flexible buildings that make efficient use of resources.

## The vision...

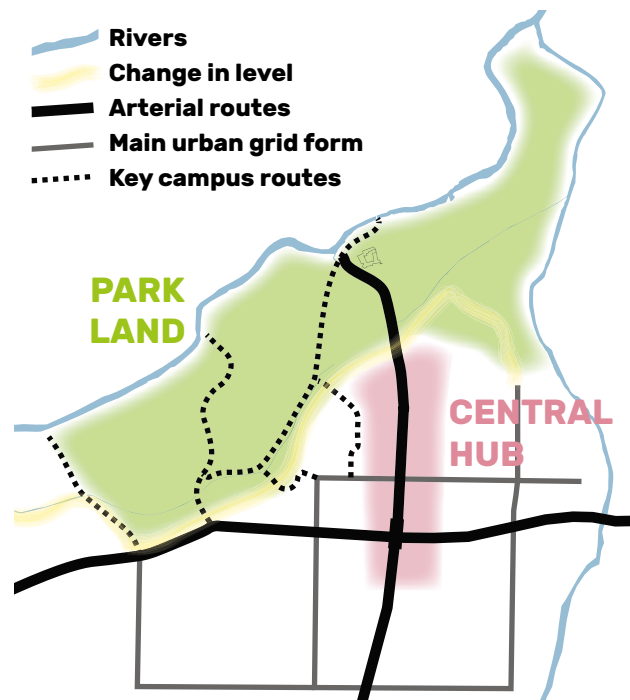
Recent years have increasingly seen the development of 'community campus' facilities across Scotland, almost invariably these centralise services and facilities in one location. While the application of the word 'campus' to these types of facilities may be relatively new, for decades Huntly has already had a form of learning and leisure campus; with the main schools, sport, leisure and community facilities in area.

Huntly has an opportunity to take a unique approach, complementing historic buildings that have been part of the town for many years, with sympathetic modern additions, and maximising the potential of introducing activity in the town centre, around the schools, and existing Linden Centre; in practice that means a greater number of existing buildings are retained and improved, reducing capital investment.



This ‘different type of campus’ allows development (and therefore activity) to be more evenly spread, respecting the historic significance of the Avenue and Huntly Castle. Importantly it also makes use of buildings in the town centre, directly supporting objectives within the Room to Thrive strategy to address the long term vacant commercial property trend by providing new purposes for buildings.

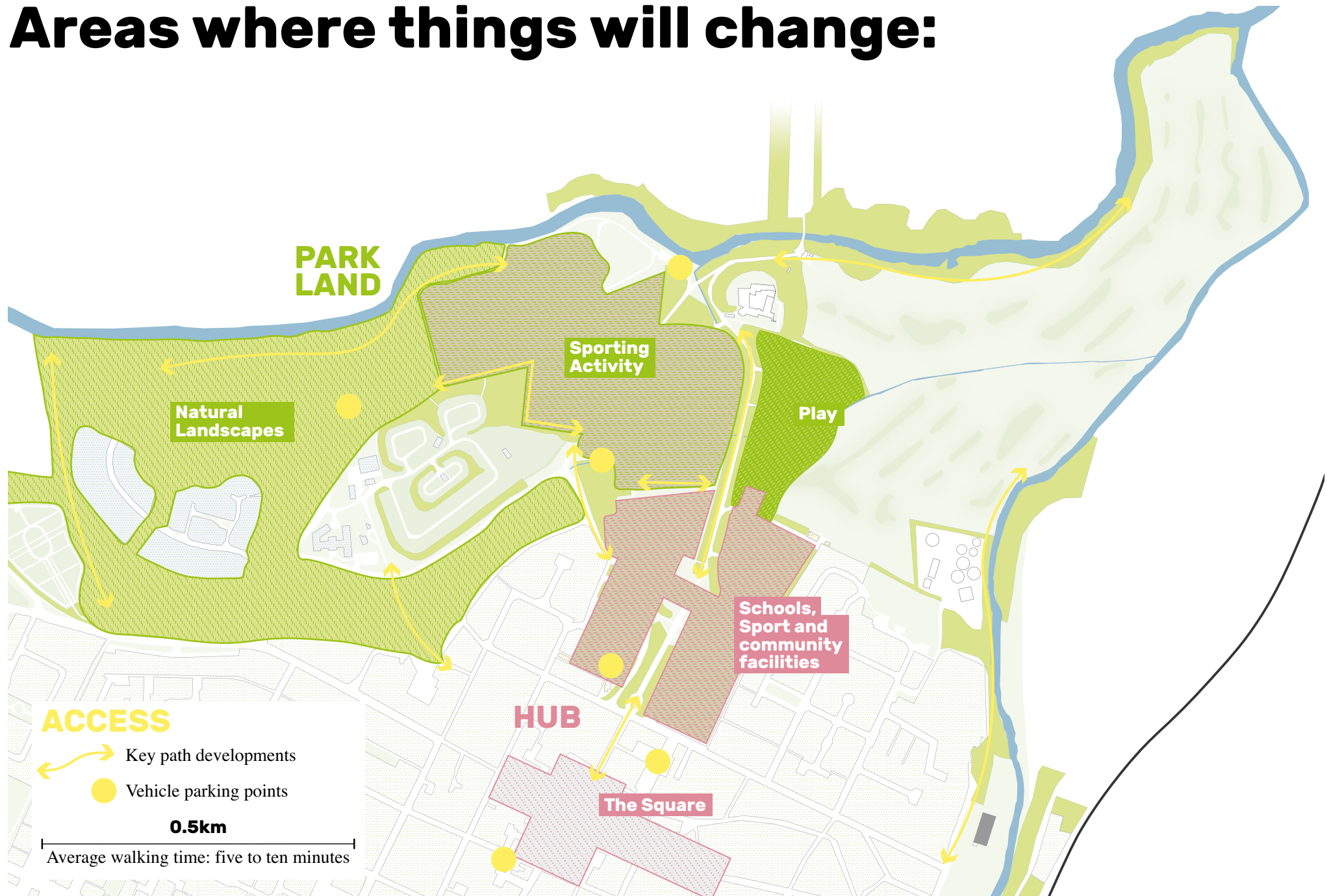
The plan is about more than activities that take place in buildings. A vast amount of open public space is on Huntly’s doorstep between the rivers Deveron and Bogie, and as these require levels of investment too to maximise the activities that can take place there, while respecting it as a natural outdoor place that showcase Huntly’s rural setting and the benefits for leisure and learning that it brings.



Looking at the key natural boundaries of the area, the rivers and change in level, along with the main (manmade) routes, not only are strong connections made to Huntly’s largely grid based layout but a number of zones are formed.

These zones, closely align with the nature of activity that takes place there creating character areas. In terms of development planning this helps articulate the content of the plan, the principles behind developments contained within it, and the type of campus for learning and leisure facilities that the community would like to see.

# Areas where things will change:



# HUB

Investing to create clusters of buildings supporting learning and leisure activity that can adapt to demand and maximise the advantages of a central location in town, and existing neighbouring facilities.

Development principles:

Activating existing buildings in the Town Centre by increasing the amount of leisure and learning activities that take place there.

Condensing building developments in the vicinity of the Simpson Building to provide new facilities while making an efficient use of amount of land available.

# PARKLAND

Delivering improvements that are less intensive on the land and celebrates Huntly Castle and the diversity of individual parts of parkland and woodland that make a greater whole.

Development principles:

Improving the quality of range of facilities available along the Avenue corridor, while recognising its historic importance and link with Huntly Castle.

Investing in outdoor sporting facilities to directly support development and performance.

Making sensitive interventions that support sustainability ecologies that accommodate nature and human activity side-by-side.

# ACCESS

Making it possible for people to get around the area in sustainable ways that respect its historic and natural settings.

Development principles:

Adapting how people travel to the campus.

Creating choice in the ways people move around the area itself, once there.